

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAM-01

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 OPR-02 /056 W

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O R 111009Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3381

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3905

E.O. 11652: GDC

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: SOCIALISTS LEAVE GOVERNMENT

REF: (A) FBIS LONDON 110056Z; (B) LISBON 3900

1. AT 1:00 A.M. JULY 11 THE SOCIALIST PARTY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM THE GOVERNMENT (REF A). NOTED THAT IN THE "REPUBLICA" CASE WORD OF THE PRESIDENT HAD NOT BEEN RESPECTED, THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (RC) DECISION HAD NO EFFECT, AND THE PRESS COUNCIL WAS IGNORED. THE PS SAID THEY WOULD RESUME PARTICIPATION ONLY IF RC DECISION WERE IMPLEMENTED.

2. THE PPD HAS ASKED TO SEE THE PRESIDENT TODAY. PPD SOURCE TOLD US THAT PARTY PLANS NOT WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT, BECAUSE PS DIRECTLY LINKED THEIR
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WITHDRAWL TO "REPUBLICA" ISSUE. HOWEVER PPD IS VERY CONCERNED

ABOUT SITUATION.

3. PS WITHDRAWAL COMES AT TIME WHEN PS AND PPD, BOTH IN THE PRESS AND IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, HAVE STRONGLY AND LOUDLY ATTACKED THE AFM ASSEMBLY JULY 9 "GUIDE DOCUMENT" ON POPULAR ASSEMBLIES, ALLEGING THAT IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE PACT BETWEEN THE PARTIES AND THE AFM. THE PS COMMUNIQUE REFERRED TO THIS OBLIQUELY WHEN IT STATED "COURSE TOWARD A PLURALIST DEMOCRACY MUST BE BASED ON THE OBSERVANCE OF THE PACTS SIGNED".

4. COMMENT: SOCIALIST WALKOUT IS MOVE TOWARDS OUTRIGHT OPPOSITION TO AFM. PS KNOWS AFM MOST UNLIKELY TO RETURN "REPUBLICA" TO RAUL REGO. SOCIALISTS HAVE NOW TAKEN FIRST STEP. NEXT STEP WILL LIKELY BE ATTEMPT TO MUSTER MASSIVE DEMONSTRATIONS TO ESCALATE OPPOSITION TO CONTINUED LEFTIST DRIFT OF NAIVE AND DIVIDED AFM. THERE IS STILL AN OUTSIDE POSSIBILITY OF A FACE-SAVING "COM-PROMISE", EVEN AT THIS LATE STAGE. IN OUR VIEW, HOWEVER, OPEN CONFRONTATION CANNOT BE AVOIDED MUCH LONGER BETWEEN SOCIALISTS PLUS OTHER NON-COMMUNIST CIVILIAN AND MILITARY ELEMENTS AND CURRENT AFM LEADERSHIP.

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Message Attributes

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